Title 6 – Department of Higher Education Division 10 – Commissioner of Higher Education Chapter 2 – Student Financial Assistance Program

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

6 CSR 10-2.200 Minority Teaching Scholarship Program. The commissioner is amending sections (1), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7).

PURPOSE: This amendment updates gender-specific language, adds reference to a statutory citizenship requirement, adds an exception to the financial need component of the recipient ranking criteria, and clarifies the policy for award disbursement and delivery.

(1) Definitions.

- (G) EFC means expected family contribution, the measure of how much the student and [his] the student's family can be expected to contribute to the cost of the student's education for the year, as calculated annually by the United States Department of Education as a result of an official federal need analysis based on the student's federal need-based aid application form.
- (I) Full-time student means an undergraduate student who is enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours, eight (8) quarter hours, or the equivalent in another measurement system, or a graduate student who is enrolled in at least nine (9) semester hours or the equivalent in another measurement system, but in either case not less than the respective number sufficient to secure the degree toward which the student is working in no more than the number of semesters, or their equivalent, normally required by the institution for the program in which the student is enrolled. Provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101–12213) who, because of [his or her] the student's disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements of full-time status under Title IV student aid programs shall be considered by the approved institution to be a full-time student and shall be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress, as defined in subsection (1)[(Q)](P) of this rule, while carrying a minimum of six (6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.
- [(K)] His, him, or he shall apply equally to the female as well as the male sex where applicable in this rule.
- [(L)](K) Initial recipient means a student who qualifies under section 161.415, RSMo, has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the Minority Teaching Scholarship program, and has not received a Minority Teaching Scholarship award in any prior academic year.
- [(M)](L) Minority teaching shall mean the Minority Teaching Scholarship program set forth in sections 161.415–161.424, RSMo.
- $[(N)](\mathbf{M})$ Minority teaching award shall mean an amount of money paid by the state of Missouri to a qualified applicant under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program.
- [(O)](N) Renewal recipient means a student who received a Minority Teaching Scholarship award, who meets the requirements set forth in 161.415, RSMo, and who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the Minority Teaching Scholarship program.
- [(P)] (O) Residency, for the purpose of this rule, shall be determined by reference to the standards set forth in the determination of student residency rule, 6 CSR 10-3.010.

- [(Q)] (P) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, and, with the exception of grade point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances.
- $[(R)](\mathbf{Q})$ Standardized test shall mean an accepted standardized test of academic ability including, but not limited to, the SAT, ACT, or SCAT.
- $[(S)](\mathbf{R})$ Temporary total disability shall mean a disability resulting from an injury or illness that renders a recipient unable to be engaged in gainful employment for a period of less than twelve (12) months from the date of such injury or illness.
- [(T)](S) Total and permanent disability shall mean disability resulting from an injury or illness that renders a recipient unable to be engaged in gainful employment or attend an educational institution for a period of at least twelve (12) months from the date of such injury or illness and that is expected to continue for a long or indefinite period of time or to result in death.

(3) Basic Eligibility Policy.

(A) Meet the requirements in section 173.1110, RSMo.

- [(A)](B) Initial or renewal recipients, at the time of application and through the period the award is received, must meet the requirements set forth in section 161.415, RSMo.
- [(B)](C) Initial recipients must have a high school rank at or above the seventy-fifth percentile at the time of graduation or as calculated at the end of the student's sixth semester.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

- (D) The department will evaluate each student's application for a minority teaching award and rank selected recipients based on the following criteria:
 - 1. Participation in school or community activities;
 - 2. Demonstrated leadership abilities:
- 3. Demonstrated academic success, including high school grade point average, high school class rank, and standardized test score; and
- 4. Financial need, as established by the student's EFC as calculated by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid if appropriations are not sufficient to fund all selected recipients, except the department may consider appeals to establish financial need using the EFC as calculated by the predictor tool for federal Title IV student financial aid eligibility approved by the USDE, commonly known as the FAFSA4caster, in exceptional circumstances.
- (E) Selected recipients will be matched in rank order with their first institutional choice until all openings at an institution are filled. If all openings are filled at the selected recipient's first institutional choice, the selected recipient will be matched at [his]the second or third choice, respectively.

(5) Award Policy.

- (I) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.
- (6) Scholarship Forgiveness and Deferment Policy.

- (C) Recipients shall defer repayment if their qualified employment is interrupted for one (1) of the following reasons:
- 1. Enrollment in full-time graduate study as certified at least annually by the institution in which the recipient is enrolled;
- 2. Request and receipt of medical leave as certified by the recipient's employer for a medical need certified by the recipient's physician;
 - 3. Service in any branch of the armed forces of the United States;
 - 4. Teaching in areas defined as critical need by the State Board of Education; or
- 5. A temporary total disability resulting from an injury or illness that renders the recipient unable to teach in any subject area for which [he]the recipient is certified. The recipient's physician must certify the nature of the disability, the date the disability began, and the expected duration of the recovery period, not to exceed twelve (12) months.

(7) Repayment Policy.

- (K) A recipient's account will be in a default status when the recipient has failed to make three (3) consecutive, scheduled payments.
 - 1. Upon default, principal and interest are due in full within one (1) year of default.
- 2. The department will notify the recipient of the default status by certified mail sent to [his]the recipient's last known mailing address.
- 3. The recipient shall have thirty (30) days from the date of the certified notice to make satisfactory repayment arrangements.
- (L) A recipient may remove [his]the account from default status by making three (3) consecutive, on-time payments that are at least the minimum amount provided on the repayment schedule.

AUTHORITY: section 161.415, RSMo Supp. [2010]**2013**.* Original rule filed June 15, 2011, effective Dec. 30, 2011. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016. *Original authority: 161.415, RSMo 1990, amended 1996, 2010.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed amendment will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed amendment will not cost private entities more than five hundred (\$500) in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS: Anyone may file a statement in support of or in opposition to this proposed amendment with Kelli Reed, Missouri Department of Higher Education, P.O. Box 1469, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1469 or kelli.reed@dhe.mo.gov. To be considered, comments must be received within thirty (30) days after publication of this notice in the **Missouri Register**. No public hearing is scheduled.